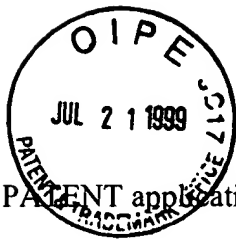


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★

EPSTEIN, EDELL & RETZER  
1901 Research Boulevard  
Suite 400  
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3164  
(301) 424-3640



In re the PATENT application of

Alexander et al.

Serial No.: 09/237,969

Filed: January 27, 1999

For: Interface Device and Method for Interfacing Instruments  
To Medical Procedure Simulation Systems

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
JUL 26 1999  
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment (41pages) for filing in the above-identified application and Check #2819 in the amount of \$867.00 for payment of the additional claim fees calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREV. PD. FOR		PRESENT EXTRA		SMALL ENTITY ADD'L RATE FEE	
TOTAL	73	-	20	=	53	x 9	= \$477.00
INDEP	14	-	4	=	10	x39	= \$390.00
TOTAL FEE						= \$867.00	

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required for the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0460.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart B. Shapiro

Registration No. 40,169

Hand-delivered: 07/21/99



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h  
5-27

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 - 11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof,  
and insert the following new claims.

- 1 -- 12. An interface apparatus for operatively interconnecting instruments to a simulation  
2 system to enable a user to interact with the simulation system to perform a medical procedure on a  
3 simulated anatomy of a virtual patient, said interface apparatus comprising:  
4 a peripheral selectively manipulable by the user and associated with a medical instrument;  
5 a sensing assembly to measure manipulation of said peripheral and transmit information  
6 associated with said manipulation to the simulation system to enable the simulation system to

07/23/1999 STEFERRA 00000032 09237969

01 FC:203  
02 FC:202

477.00 OP  
390.00 OP